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- The Argentine Embassy in Moscow has been operating under a severe handicap because of the Soviet Union's unfriendly attitude toward it. Leopold Bravo, 25X1X Argentine Charge d'Affaires in Moscow, was offered the rank of ambassador before it was granted to Juan Otero, former Argentine Labor Attache to Rome and the new Ambassador to Moscow. Bravo, however, refused to accept the appointment and stated he would rather resign from the diplomatic service than continue living in Moscow under such trying conditions. Consequently, he was designated Minister to Rumania.
- 2. Otero's appointment lends credence to the rumor heard in the Argentine Ministry of Foreign Affairs that the Argentine government has decided to maintain a small mission staffed by about six second-rate diplomats in the Soviet Union rather than break diplomatic relations with that country. Source reports that Otero is not properly qualified to occupy his new position as Ambassador to Moscow.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States. Next Review Date: 2008



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